

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 06447 100701Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 IGA-02 MCE-00 EB-08 DHA-05  
ERDA-05 /090 W

-----044313 101011Z /14

R 091410Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8215

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 6447

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, TS  
SUBJ: ARMS TRANSFER POLICY, TALK WITH TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: STATE 207984

1. AS INSTRUCTED I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER HABIB CHATTY TODAY FOR RATHER LENGTHY DISCUSSION ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS, CHIEF BEING PRESENTATION OF U.S. POLICY REGARDING ARMS TRANSFER. I TALKED AT LENGTH WITH HIM REGARDING PROCEDURES WE HOPED GOT WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO INSTITUTING AIMED AT GUARANTEEING CIVIL CONTROLS BY US AND HOST GOVERNMENTS OVER ARMS TRANSFER POLICIES. I LEFT WITH HIM A DIPLOMATIC NOTE AND ATTACHED COPY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MAY 19 POLICY STATEMENT.

2. FROM TALKING PAPER I MADE POINTS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL AND FOUND CHATTY ENTIRELY RESPONSIVE. WE BOTH AGREED WE HAD ENCOUNTERED NO PROBLEM IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS REGARDING U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BUT BASIC AIM OF NEW U.S. POLICY IS LAUDABLE AND OUGHT TO BE FOSTERED. WITH AMERICAN DESK OFFICER PRESENT AS NOTETAKER WE WORKED OUT PROCEDURES FOR INITIATING FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING ANY NEW MILITARY ASSISTANCE MATTERS. CHATTY INDICATED THAT OUR DESIRE TO KEEP COMMUNICATIONS IN DIPLOMATIC CHANNEL WERE UNDERSTANDABLE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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HE SAW NO PROBLEM WITH ADDITIONAL "LAYERING" ENTAILED.

3. I EXPLAINED THAT CHUSLOT WOULD BE IN CONTACT SEPT. 12 WITH SENIOR MOD OFFICIALS TO ENSURE NEW MODALITIES UNDERSTOOD BY BOTH MOFA AND MOD. CHATTY WAS AGREEABLE.

4. I REMINDED FONMIN THAT GOT HAS OPTION OF CONDUCTING

MAP COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH ITS WASHINGTON EMBASSY, IF DESIRED.  
I ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT MY GOOD FRIEND AMBASSADOR HEDDA IN  
PAST HAS OFTEN TALKED IN WASHINGTON ON MAP MATTERS WHEN NOT  
COMPLETELY AU COURANT WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN TUNIS AND WITHOUT  
KNOWLEDGE OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY/USLOT AND MOD. CHATTY  
AGREED SMILINGLY AND INFORMED ME THAT, PRECISELY FOR THIS REASON,  
AMBASSADOR HEDDA HAS BEEN ASKED TO RETURN TO TUNIS OVER COMING  
WEEKEND FOR FULL BRIEFING OF POLITICO-MILITARY MATTERS. I  
SAID I THOUGHT THIS WAS ALL TO THE GOOD.

5. COMMENT: WE WILL REPORT AFTER CHUSLOT CONVERSATIONS MONDAY  
AT MOD REACTION ENCOURNTERED THERE; HOWEVER, WE ANTICIPATE  
NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING COMPLETE GOT UNDERSTANDING AND  
COOPERATION IN IMPLEMENTING OF USG POLICY.  
MULCAHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TUNIS06447  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARMS TRANSFER POLICY, TALK WITH TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER  
**TAGS:** MASS, TS, US, (CHATTI, HABIB)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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